21st October 1927]

Irrigation

Correspondence between the Local Government and the Government of India regarding Mettur dam.

*778 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Local Government telegraphed to the Government of India about the beginning of December 1924 "intimating that certain lands to be acquired for the Mettur Project have been damaged by the recent heavy floods in the Cauvery river, and that the distress resulting therefrom in some cases be relieved by the immediate acquisition of the lands in question, and that the Local Government have been urged by a resolution moved in the Legislative Council to take this course";

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House a copy of the telegram which is sent to the Government of India about the beginning of December 1924 bearing on the subject and referred to in the despatch of the Government of India to His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, dated Delhi, 11th December 1924, No. 4, Public Works;

(c) which was the resolution of the Legislative Council to which reference has been made in the telegram in question; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House a copy of the full letter addressed by the Government of Madras to the Government of India on the subject of the Mettur dam, dated the 26th September 1924, No. 323-1?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) There was no express resolution—only an assurance given in a discussion on a motion for a supplementary grant (see pages 705–708 of Volume XX-7 of the Proceedings of the House).

(d) The Government think it unnecessary to do this—the paragraph omitted from the letter as published only referred to the Irrigation Bill then under consideration.

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi:—"May I know with reference to (c) whether the assurance mentioned therein was not the assurance of the Government or of this House?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—"I cannot answer that without reference to the records, Sir. I should like to have notice."

Marine

Tuticorin Harbour scheme.

*788 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what the original and the present estimates of the Tuticorin Harbour scheme are;

(b) whether the dredger 'St. George' bought for the harbour works has been found capable of dredging the rock foundations below the 24-feet level;

(c) whether the two dredgers 'St. David' and 'St. George' have been condemned by the Port Trust as unfit for the work for which they were purchased;